

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of exchanging data between software components on a portable device, comprising:
 - loading a first software component using the portable device;
 - retrieving data from a service provider for the first software component, at least a portion of the retrieved data being common to a second software component;
 - initiating a call by the first software component to load the second software component;
 - loading the second software component; and
 - exchanging data between the second software component and the first software component.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the retrieved data is not common to the second software component.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising: retrieving supplemental data from the service provider for the second software component.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the portable device comprises a wireless device.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein software components comprise one of an application and a channel / plugin residing within an application.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising: displaying a list of software components that utilize common data retrieved from the service provider for the first software component.
7. The method of claim 6, further comprising: selecting the second software component from the list.
8. A method of presenting data for a software component on a portable device, comprising:
 - identifying a first data type and a second data type used by the software component;
 - retrieving data corresponding to the first data type from a service provider;
 - retrieving data corresponding to the second data type from the portable device; and

displaying on the portable device a return content result including both the first data type and the second data type.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the first data type comprises status/update information.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the first data type comprises outdated status/update information, and wherein the second data type comprises current status/update information previously retrieved by the portable device.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the second data type comprises application files.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein the second data type comprises application files.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein identifying the first data type and the second data type used by the software component is performed by the service provider.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein identifying the first data type and the second data type used by the software component is performed by the portable device.

15. The method of claim 8, wherein identifying the first data type and the second data type comprises:

providing a list of data available for the software component; and
selecting a subset of the list of data available for the software component,
wherein the first data type includes selected data and excludes un-selected data.

16. The method of claim 8, further comprising: storing data corresponding to the second data type on the portable device.

17. The method of claim 8, wherein software components comprise one of an application and a channel / plugin residing within an application.

18. The method of claim 8, wherein the portable device comprises a wireless device.

19. A method for automatically customizing data retrieval for a software component on a portable device, comprising:

- providing an identifier to the portable device;
- storing the identifier on the portable device;
- accessing a software component on the portable device;
- retrieving data corresponding to the identifier from a service provider; and
- displaying on the portable device a return result including the data corresponding to the identifier,

wherein data corresponding to other identifiers is excluded from an initial data retrieval from the service provider.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the identifier comprises one of:

- a location identifier;
- an address; and
- a telephone number.

21. A method of auto-populating a location field of a software component on a portable device, comprising:

- determining a location accuracy requirement for the software component;
- requesting location information of the determined location accuracy requirement via an application programming interface (API) of a global positioning system (GPS); and
- auto-populating the location field of the software component with location information received from the GPS.

22. The method of claim 21, further comprising receiving location information from the GPS, the received location information having an accuracy not greater than the determined location accuracy requirement.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the determined location accuracy requirement for a first software component is different than the determined location accuracy requirement for a second software component.

24. A software component developer kit for developing a software component of a portable device, comprising machine readable program code including at least one of the following classes:

a SupportScrolling Helper class adapted and configured to support vertical scrolling and to return a total size of a viewable window;

a SupportRenderedUI class adapted and configured to store a viewable portion of a screen as a bitmap;

a SupportRenderedForm class adapted and configured to define a plurality of files, to manage drawing of the plurality of files, and to acquire user access to the plurality of files;

a WndUpdateChannels class adapted and configured to allow users to check items for inclusion from updates, to uncheck items for exclusion from updates, and to manipulate an order of updates;

a Token Parser class adapted and configured to parse data coming from either a file or HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) data transfer; and

a Cache File Tool Class Overview class adapted and configured to encapsulate generic read/writ functions so as to port a resulting interface between environments.

25. A wireless device adapted and configured to communicate via a wireless data link with a data content provider, comprising:

means for accessing data using a software component on the wireless device;

means for selectively updating data used by the software component with data from the data content provider; and

means for displaying received data on the wireless device.

26. A method for automatically customizing data retrieval for a software component on a portable device, comprising:

providing customer related data to the portable device;

storing the customer related data on the portable device;

accessing a software component on the portable device;

retrieving data corresponding to the customer related data from a service provider;

and

displaying on the portable device a return result including the retrieved data,

wherein the retrieved data excludes, from an initial data retrieval from the service provider, at least a portion of data available for the software component based on the provided customer related data.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein providing customer related data comprises monitoring a usage history of the portable device.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein customer related data comprises one of:

user preferences provided by user on the portable device;
user preferences indicated by prior usage of the portable device;
user preferences previously stored with the data service provider; and
user information stored in other software components on the portable device.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein providing customer related data comprises entering data on a user interface.

30. A wireless data access architecture, comprising:
a data service provider adapted and configured to send a data packet to a client wireless device and to receive data from a data content provider;
the data content provider adapted and configured to provide data to the data service provider for use by the client wireless device; and
the client wireless device adapted and configured to request data corresponding to a first data type from the data service provider,
wherein the data service provider separates data from the data content provider into the first data type and a second data type, and
wherein the data service provider assembles the data packet including data corresponding to the first data type and excluding data corresponding to the second data type.

31. The wireless data access architecture of claim 29, wherein the wireless device is further adapted and configured to receive the data packet from the data service provider, to obtain data corresponding to the second data type from a source on the wireless device; and to generate a display using data corresponding to the first data type and the second data type.